CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

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Form Dom'n Industry Council

56 In 1949-50 From AA-Mono

Allied Artists and Monogram will produce a total of 56 pictures during the 1949-50 season, it was announced recently by Steve Broidy, president of both companies.

Ten films under the A classification will be made by Allied

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Five More Shorts In Trade Series

Five short subjects which will complete the first series of the motion picture industry's The Movies and You films have been assigned to studios for production, Grant Leenhouts, co-ordinator-producer of the series, announced last week. The as-

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All Sections Of Trade Affiliated With Public Relations Group

The Canadian Motion Picture Industry Council has been established in Toronto for the purpose of providing the trade with an official source of information on matters which belong in the field of general public relations.

Headquarters of the Council, which will be represented by the president of the Film Board of Trade and a leading exhibitor in each exchange territory, are in Toronto at 229 Yonge Street. The first meeting took place there recently.

Seats on the Council are held by Canada's leading theatre chains, Independent theatre operators, distributors of both 16 and 35 mm. films and Canadian producers. In every case the unit and not the individual controls the

(Continued on Page 3)

Admission Tax Cut By PEI Gov't

Prince Edward Island's amusement tax was recently reduced by 20 per cent. It was also taken right off children's tickets under 17 cents and for the kids on Saturday matinees and holidays.

The tax varied from one cent on a 20 cent ticket to 10 cents on one costing between 75 cents and one dollar.

Next tax change will probably be in Newfoundland, now that it's a province. It used to take 10 per cent on the gross.

Exhibitors have hopes for reduction of amusement taxes in other provinces.

Three Drive-Ins For Ontario

Three drive-ins will be added shortly to Ontario's 13 and work may begin on several more.

Drive-ins under construction near Kingston and Belleville by the Ochs Management Company, to accommodate 500 cars each, will be open by June 1st. Ochs,

(Continued on Page 3)

RKO Buys 'Terror'

RKO has acquired Hugh King's original, Terror.

Lucille Ball Signed

Lucille Ball has been signed by Paramount to star opposite Bob Hope in the Technicolored comedy, Where Men Are Men.

Humanitarian Award To Herbert Hoover

Ex-President of the United States, Herbert C. Hoover, has been awarded the 1948 Humanitarian Award of the Variety Clubs International, it was announced last week at the 13th annual convention in San Francisco by International Chief Barker, Robert J. O'Donnell of Dallas, Texas.

In making the 1948 selection, the panel of some 50 USA newspapers editors and publishers voted unanimously for Herbert C. Hoover and cited him as "A loyal American, an able President, a conscientious servant and humane citizen of the

(Continued on Page 3)

WB Changes Title

Warners has changed the title of the forthcoming Bette Davis starrer, Beyond the Forest, to Rose Moline, name of the lead in the story.

Theatre Planned

A new theatre is being planned for Rose Valley, Saskatchewan. A one-day house, the 150-seat Rose Valley operated by G. M. Miller, is the only theatre there at present.

Beeston On Board

George H. Beeston, president of General Theatre Investment Co. Ltd., of Toronto, was elected a director of the United Amusement Corp. Ltd., Montreal, at a general annual meeting. He succeeded the late D. Allen Murray. Other directors were re-elected.

GETS AWARD FOR THE CANADIAN FILM OF THE YEAR

F. R. Crawley of Ottawa, producer and director of Crawley Films' The Loon's Necklace, is shown being presented with the award for the best film in the competition sponsored by the Canadian Association for Adult Education. It had the unanimous vote of the judges.

Crawley is receiving the award from the Hon. R. H. Winters, Minister of Reconstruction and Supply, in the absence of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent, while Dr. H. L. Keenleyside, Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources, looks on. The ceremony took place on the stage of the Little Elgin, Ottawa.

The Loon's Necklace was photographed in 16 mm. on Kodachrome by Grant Crabtree from Douglas Leechman's story, which was given its screen treatment by Judith Crawley. Graham Crabtree did the art work, unusually important in this case, and George Gorman told the story.

Photo is by the National Film Board.

A WALTER WANGER Production An EAGLE LION (Hollywood) RELEASE

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THREE DRIVE-INS

(Continued from Page 1)

a leading operator in the drive-in field who is from Cleveland, is also associated with George Altman, W. B. Herman and Babb & Jassey in five Ontario drive-ins. This group has no connection with Ochs' new venture.

Chatham will have a drive-in soon, the one in that town under construction by Jerry Campbell being due to open shortly. Campbell, formerly manager of the Sunset drive-ins in Preston and Brantford, is also planning one for Sudbury, for which he has purchased land and obtained a Highways Department permit.

There are rumors of a drive-in for Port Colborne and it is known that J. J. Stanyon and W. W. Robertson of Amsterdam, NY, are looking for a location. They had plans for one on Highway 14, near Belleville, but yielded to the Ochs' group's enterprise between Belleville and Trenton. They next checked on Trenton but are not expected to proceed there.

There is one drive-in in operation in British Columbia but several are proposed for that and other western provinces.

No additional units are being built by the Sunset Drive-in Theatres, whose Preston and Brantford units were purchased from local business men by a syndicate in which Principal Investments is interested.

UI Buys Original

Universal-International has purchased Hellgate and signed writer-producer John C. Champion to develop his own original story.

Engineering Session Features TV Paper

Presentation of a paper on television by Dr. R. D. Kell, head of the RCA television laboratories at Princeton, NJ, will be one of the features of the annual Engineering Institute of Canada convention, being held in Quebec City May 11th to 14th.

Dr. Kell, who is one of the world's leading authorities on television, received in 1947 a "Fellow Award" from the USA Institute of Radio Engineers for his work in research. In 1941 he was selected for the "Modern Pioneer Award" by the American National Association of Manufacturers for his inventions in the field of television.

Wanted

Projectionist for theatre in small town. Must be reliable—references—willing to assume other theatre duties.

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Canada Trade Council

(Continued from Page 1)

seat, so that the representative may be changed by those represented at any time.

Organization of the Council, which is not affiliated with the one headed by Cecil B. DeMille in Hollywood, was sponsored by the Motion Picture section of the Toronto Board of Trade. This is the leading body in the Canadian film and theatre field, for Toronto is the headquarters city of the national industry. Senior executives of leading firms and associations comprise the membership of the Board of Trade's industry branch.

Hye Bossin, managing editor of the Canadian Film Weekly, was elected chairman of the Council at its first meeting, at which James Cowan of the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Canada presided. Fred Dillon of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association was elected secretary.

It is not the intention of the Canadian Motion Picture Industry Council to undertake campaigns but to provide a central source of guidance as well as informative material related to every branch of the trade and bearing on subjects often misused to embarrass it.

The purposes of the Council are:

(a) to invite suggestions and provide ideas and material through which the public might be better informed about the motion picture industry as an important social and economic institution, locally and nationally;

(b) to effectively correct irresponsible criticism of our industry and its people;

(c) to bring better understanding to the members of our industry of the importance of their own co-operation toward the realization of the council's aims.

Establishment of the council made unnecessary the continuance of the public relations group established earlier.

Consolidated Earned More Last Year

Net profits of Consolidated Theatres Limited of Montreal amounted to $145,414 in 1948, an increase of $13,749 over the previous year.

Working capital was increased by $20,882 to $422,816 during the year and the mortgage indebtedness was reduced by $28,666 in the same period.

Clips From 100 Pix In MGM Four-Reeler

Clips from over 100 films made in the past 25 years, as well as clips from films to be released in the next six months, have been used by MGM in the production of a four-reeler titled Some of the Best.

Of an institutional nature, the film has been set to highlight MGM's 25th anniversary celebration and will be shown shortly to critics and reviewers, with bookings following for mid-June in keys as a secondary attraction. Clips start with The Big Parade and narration is by Lionel Barrymore.

Stars Of 'Gun Crazy'

Peggy Cummins and John Dall will star in Gun Crazy, King Brothers' first production for United Artists release.

'Morocco' Big In Mtl.

United Artists' Outpost in Morocco, in its first six days, did bigger business at the Orpheum Theatre, Montreal, than the company's former champion, Red River, did in its initial week.

Manager Arraigned

Roger Houle, former manager of the LaSalle Theatre in Ville LaSalle, Quebec, was arraigned in a Montreal court on a charge of stealing $400 while in the employ of the theatre. He was ordered for preliminary enquiry at a later date.

Gregory Peck Gets 'Quo Vadis' Lead

Gregory Peck has finally been selected by MGM to portray the starring role of Marcus Vinicius opposite Elizabeth Taylor in the forthcoming Technicolor production, Quo Vadis. The selection climaxes a two-year search.

Slated to be one of the greatest production enterprises ever to be undertaken, Quo Vadis will be directed by John Huston and produced by Arthur Hornblow Jr. Cast will include 64 principals and several hundred lesser players and the picture will be filmed in Rome.

VARIETY AWARD

(Continued from Page 1)

world whose noble endeavors in behalf of humanity have placed him among the 'all-time' great Americans." The award is in the form of a silver plaque inscribed with the recipient's name and the insigne of the Variety Clubs International, an organization of men connected with the Motion Picture Industry and show business in general, who carry out large-scale charities throughout the continent. Hoover will also receive an elaborate scroll and an honorarium of $1,000.

Born the son of a blacksmith in West Branch, Iowa, on August 10, 1874, Herbert C. Hoover became the 31st President of the United States in 1928 at the age of 54. Before and since he has labored at a variety of tasks, among them several dealing with the relief of victims of both World wars.

As he could not be present, Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, ex-president of Stanford University, accepted the award in Hoover's behalf.

Previous Variety Humanitarian winners include Father Flanagan, Sister Kenny, George C. Marshall, George Washington Carver, Alexander Fleming, Cordell Hull, Martha Berry, James E. Byrnes and Evangeline Booth.

Release Title Set

Collision will be the release title of the 20th-Fox Richard Conte-Valentina Cortesa starrer known in work as Thieves' Market.

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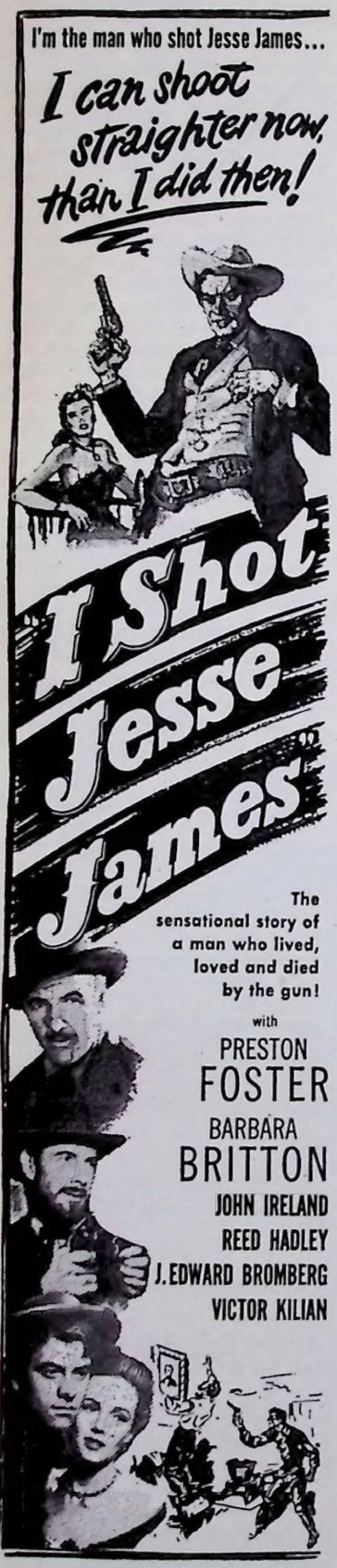
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Answers Questioned Department

Robert Flaherty's film, The Louisiana Story, is extremely interesting in spite of its failure to be clear about a number of things. Flaherty, usually regarded as a Canadian because of his upbringing here, come to town for the private showings of the picture at the Hyland.

In an interview in the Globe & Mail "Flaherty became explosive on the subject of big business which, he claims, has a positive duty to perform in subsidizing art."

The story goes on to say:

"When it was pointed out that the Standard Oil Co. had financed The Louisiana Story, Flaherty replied that the film was financed during a period of capital gains taxation and that actually the cost to the company had been very small."

Nothing succeeds like excess, I guess.

Novel sight, according to Sidney Skolsky, syndicated Hollywood columnist:

"The Brooklyn Dane Clark and the Canadian Raymond Massey lunching together in the Warner Green, Clark sipping tea and Massey eating hot dogs."

Darned democratic of our Ray, don't you think, Sidney, old chap? Hams across the border and all that.

Conspiratorial note from "Getting Canada's Name in Lights," an article about the National Film Board by Ken Johnstone in the Montreal Standard:

"Canada Dances, a highly competent short, received the unwitting tribute of being rejected for commercial distribution because it allegedly competed too directly in entertainment value with Hollywood musical shorts."

Yoo hoo, Royal Commission!

* * *

Sights and Insights

Paul Duval, who handles the Odeon art shows, tells me that actually the first use of a theatre to display art was made in the now-vanished Princess during the last century. I imagine it was called the Academy of Music then . . . **That was no revel** at Columbia during the wee hours recently. Quite the contrary. The musicians' division of the UJA held a rally after working hours to hear speakers and raised their contribution by 300 per cent over last year's total — and this at one meeting. Archie Stone, Jack Katz, Lew Lewis et al are to be congratulated, as is Murray Little, who acted as guest chairman.

Congratulations to Harold and Mary Kay on the confirmation of their son, Sheldon Harvey, and thanks for a grand party . . . **Although lounges** spring at you every few hundred feet, but four per cent of the liquor consumed in Ontario is dispensed through them. The rest goes through government stores . . . **I have a letter** from Cesare Montagna, 3/4 REI, Company 10, Mehnes, Morocco. Cesare, who, I suspect, is in the Foreign Legion, wants to enter into correspondence with a young lady between 25 and 30. (Make it for two Cesare, old boy.) What fascinates me is how Cesare got our address way out there. Horrible thought: This couldn't be a publicity gag for UA's G. Raft starrer, Outpost in Morocco?

A story on Canadian production is being prepared for Saturday Night by Fred Edge . . . **Wayne & Schuster** will make a Red Feather trailer at the NFB . . . **Thirty kids** from the Home For Incurables were given a ride around the block on a pony dyed red with vegetable dye during the run of Tulsa at the Odeon-Toronto . . . **It's a girl** at the Al Perlys and that makes it a double-feature for the popular Biltmore manager . . . **Longest film run** in a Canadian movie house was probably the third silent version of Ramona, which Tom Daley ran for 468 showings in 13 weeks at the Tivoli, Toronto, during the summer of 1927.

Pickman To Para Exhib Relations

Appointment of Jerry Pickman as director of exhibitor relations for Paramount Pictures recently indicates growing competition among distributors for screen time. Pickman will concentrate on more extensive exhibitor contact and on the co-ordination of advance national promotions with point-of-sales merchandising, aimed at preselling Paramount product to circuits and independent theatre owners.

In announcing the appointment, Paul Raibourn, Paramount vice-president, stated, "For a long time, it has been felt that there has been an important need in the sales, and advertising and publicity departments for complete co-ordination of overall promotion and long-range preselling activities. We have engaged Pickman to launch and operate this department."

Pickman, who resigned a week earlier as assistant director of advertising and publicity for Eagle Lion (Hollywood) Films, at one time held managerial and promotional posts with Eddie Cantor, Tommy Dorsey and Larry Clinton prior to entering the film industry in 1944. He has held the position of assistant advertising and publicity director for 20th Century-Fox and director of special promotion for David O. Selznick. He joined Eagle Lion when the company was first organized in December, 1946.

"His wide and varied promotional experience," added Raibourn," is certain to further our long-range sales program, as well as build a feeling of increased mutual co-operation and confidence between Paramount Pictures and the great number of exhibitors whom it serves. We are certain that the industry will soon recognize the value of this new Exhibitor Relations Department."

MGM's 'Side Street'

Cathy O'Donnell, James Craig and Farley Granger will have the leads in MGM's Side Street.

Santana Sets Stars For 'Baby Is Here'

Robert Young and Barbara Hale will star in Baby Is Here, Santana production for Columbia release. Robert Lord, who, with Humphrey Bogart heads Santana, will produce and Henry Levin will direct. The original screenplay by Lou Breslow and Joseph Hoffman, tells the story of the complications which ensue when a wife, contemplating divorce, believes that she is about to become a mother.

AA-MONO SKED

(Continued from Page 1)

Artists, with eight to be filmed at the studios in Hollywood and two in England, under a contract recently signed with Associated British Pictures Corporation. Monogram will contribute 28 features, with an additional 18 westerns. Details of the program will be definitely set during the next few days at a series of meetings between Broidy and the sales staff, following approval voted at the board of directors meetings in Chicago.

Scott R. Dunlap, King Brothers and Roy Del Ruth are expected to contribute films under the Allied Artists trade mark, and under the Monogram banner the various series which have been successful in the past will be continued. There will be four pictures in the Bowery Boys series; and two each in the Joe Palooka, Charlie Chan, Henry the Rainmaker, and Jiggs and Maggie groups. Roddy McDowall will star in two productions, and there will be additional Bomba, the Jungle Boy, films.

Three western series, to consist of six each, will star Johnny Mack Brown with Max Terhune; Jimmy Wakely with Cannonball Taylor; and Whip Wilson with Andy Clyde.

In discussing the companies' financial condition, Broidy pointed out that, while profits have decreased owing the enhanced production costs, the release of completed high-budget Allied Artists pictures, which will be effected by November, will bring an increase of at least $1,000,000 in rentals next year, as compared with the present fiscal period. The Babe Ruth Story, he noted, has already grossed nearly $2,000,000, and will eventually return a substantial profit.

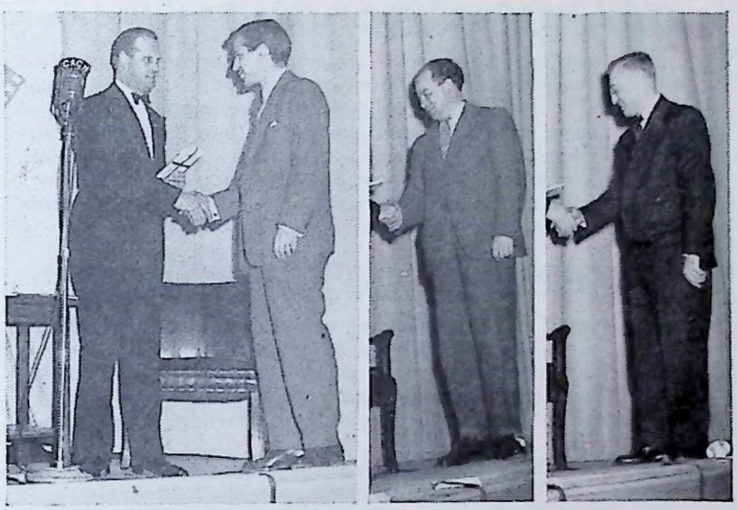
The following producers are currently on the Monogram roster: Jeffrey Bernerd, Lindsley Parsons, Jan Grippo, James S. Burkett, Hal E. Chester, Walter Mirisch, Barney Gerrard, Peter Scully, Barney Sarecky and Louis Gray.

John Agar Borrowed

John Agar has again been borrowed from Vanguard Films by RKO for a role in I Married a Communist.

Huston To Star In Para's 'The Furies'

Walter Huston has been signed for a top role in The Furies, film version of the Niven Busch novel which Hal Wallis will produce for Paramount next fall. Huston will portray the father of Barbara Stanwyck in the picture, his first film since winning the Academy Award for his performance in The Treasure of Sierra Madre.



SCENES AT PRESENTATION OF CANADIAN AWARDS

In conversation in the lobby of the Little Elgin Theatre, Ottawa, prior to the presentations are (top photo, l. to r.) Ernie Warren, manager of the theatre; Dr. H. L. Keenleyside; Hon. R. H. Winters; and Dr. R. J. Kidd, secretary of the Canadian Film Awards.

The next group shows (1) Robert Anderson, National Film Board producer and director of the non-theatrical winners, Feeling of Hostility and Drug Addict, receiving his award from Mr. Winters; (2) O. C. Burritt, director of Shelly Films' winner in the non-theatrical class, Beans of Bounty, is honored, as is (3) Rene Germain, president of Quebec Productions Corporation, for the feature-length theatrical film, Un Homme et Son Peche, produced by Paul L'Anglais, which got a special award.

Token awards were presented, the actual prizes being original Canadian paintings. There were ten altogether.

Mr. Winters described the occasion as an "historical moment" in the Dominion's cultural development and newspapers reported the ceremony as marking Canada's first official recognition of the standards of its growing movie industry.

The National Film Board carried off five of the ten awards in the first of what will be an annual competition, its non-theatrical winners being praised for their "courage and honesty of treatment."

In the opening remarks to the audience Dr. Keenleyside praised the work of the Canadian Association for Adult Education, which sponsored the awards, for encouraging greater creative effort in Canadian film-making.

Photos are by the National Film Board.

Marta Toren Named To 'Panther's Moon'

Universal - International has exercised the option on Marta Toren's contract and at the same time has assigned her the role of leading lady in Panther's Moon.

The picture is a post-war spy story played against the locale of Italy and Switzerland, which Robert Arthur will produce and Frederick De Cordova direct.

Stars For WB Film

Gordon MacRae and Doris Day will have the singing romantic leads in Warners' When Old New York Was Young.

Paul Christian Set For UI's 'Bagdad'

Paul Christian, Swiss actor imported by Universal-International several months ago, has been set to star with Yvonne De Carlo in the Technicolor production Bagdad.

Christian, who starred on both stage and screen in Vienna before coming to this country, was scheduled to play one of the top roles in Sword in the Desert, but had to be withdrawn from the cast at the last minute because of a serious eye infection. Bagdad wil be his first picture made in the United States.

TRADE SERIES

(Continued from Page 1)

signments are:

History Brought to Life, to be made at Paramount; Moments in Music, Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer; The Costume Designer, RKO Radio; Screen Directors, Warner Brothers; Screen Writers, 20th Century-Fox.

Scripts on all five subjects have been approved by the industry committee in charge, of which Y. Frank Freeman is chairman. Work will start immediately on assembling film, much of it from memorable features of the past, Leenhouts stated. Scripts also call for new production in each case, he said.

Total of 12 short subjects will be released in the next two years, each company making films handling release of its own subjects, with sponsorship of Motion Picture Association of America and co-operation of exhibitor groups and Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. First films completed, to be released in order, are Let's Go to the Movies, RKO Radio; This Theatre and You, Warner Brothers; Movies Are Adventure, Universal-International; The Art Director, 20th Century-Fox. The RKO reel's release date in Canada is May 13th.

Screen Actors is nearing completion at MGM, as is The Sound Man at Columbia. A Film Goes to Market is in production at Paramount.

Top Roles Filled In Columbia Serial

Top roles in Columbia's Adventures of Sir Gallahad, serial to be produced by Sam Katzman, were filled recently with the signing of George Reeves for the title role; Nelson Leigh for the part of King Arthur; Hugh Prosser as Sir Lancelot; and William Fawcett as Merlin, the magician. The chapter-play, based on the stories of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round-Table, will be directed by Spencer Bennett and Derwin Abrahams.

Hit Theatre Owners Delhi Man Fined

Fines totalling $20 and costs were levied against a Delhi, Ontario, man on three charges of common assault for striking Mr. and Mrs. R. D'Hondt and their son, owners of the Imperial Theatre in Delhi.

The accused admitted to having had some beer previous to attempting to get into the theatre without an admission ticket. When the owners tried to stop him he struck several blows. The magistrate warned him that if he ever came back on a similar charge a jail sentence would be added.

SHORT THROWS

IN HAMILTON a fire near the Community caused the manager to empty the theatre and when it was over the audience returned. The word "Movie" appeared in the head of the story in the papers, giving the quick impression that the fire was in the theatre.

JOHN FITZGIBBONS told the Toronto Telegram that every Famous Players theatre is being placed at the disposal of Chambers of Commerce and special films to teach tourist courtesy to attendants of all kinds will be shown.

THE GOVERNMENT intends to introduce a bill at this session if possible to make anti-combines legislation more effective, the Prime Minister told the House. "The Minister of Justice feels that there should be legislation," he said. Might as well mention here that there have been talks by several persons interested from a film standpoint.

HOW MUCH MONEY does the Canadian exhibition field earn annually? Can't be as much as most people think it does. Famous Players and associates operated 383 theatres last year, and it is estimated that the company's own theatres handled 50 per cent of Canada's BO receipts. Its net profit in 1948 was $3,286,264.

Just as information on the growth of the industry in Canada the following year-to-year net profit figures of Famous Players are offered:

1923 — $379,935; 1924 — $149,377; 1925—$122,160; 1926—(?); 1927 — $1,191,877; 1928—$1,507,067; 1929 — $3,376,844; 1930—$1,906,255; 1931—$823,106; 1932—$21,985; 1933—$30,068; 1934—$302,626; 1935—$335,266; 1936—$576,240; 1937—$869,198; 1938—$974,788; 1939—$904,324; 1940—$1,012,270; 1941—$1,122,511; 1942—$1,276,719; 1943 — $1,348,450; 1944 — $1,371,625; 1945—$1,594,974; 1946 — $2,834,957; 1947 — $3,156,464; 1948—$3,286,264.

VAUDEVILLE will be back in the Palace, New York, on May 19th. There it once flowered, then wrinkled and died in 1932. Now it will be tried again with movies at popular prices and $60,000 will be spent to refurbish the house. Sol A. Schwartz, v-p and g-m of the RKO chain, praised the unions for the "fair deal" that will make the experiment possible.

In Vancouver the Odeon-Hastings begins five acts of vaudeville on May 14th and more houses are trying it every week in Canada. And the Canadian branch of AGVA has a minor problem in the rise of would-be bookers.

SAM GOLDWYN and David O. Selznick are reported negotiating with Robert Young for the purchase of a part interest in Hollywood Eagle Lion.

TELEVISION CO-ORDINATOR for the CBC during "preliminary stages preceding actual television" will be Alphonse Quimet, assistant chief engineer, and regional representative in Newfoundland for the CBC will be William F. Galgay, former general manager of the Broadcasting Corportaion of Newfoundland, which was taken over by the CBC under the terms of the union. Both appointments were made public by Dr. Augustin Frigon, CBC general manager.

A 52-WEEK audience participation quiz show on film will be tried out in Miami next week. Each issue runs ten minutes and ten prizes are offered at every performance. There will also be a $100,000 national jackpot. Owners are Santa Claus Quiz Shows, Inc., 36 West 44th St., NY. No Canadian agent as yet.

FOX-WEST COAST, California, will experiment with from five to ten television theatres, while the NBC, American network, states that it will offer theatre owners TV shows soon.

— News Notes —

ONTARIO ASKS CEILING REPORT

The Theatre Inspection branch of the Treasury Department of the Province of Ontario has asked exhibitors "to have an inspection made of your ceiling by a competent authority" and to provide O. J. Silverthorne with the report by June 1st.

Silverthorne made the request in a letter, in which he recalled recently attending a performance when a portion of the ceiling fell, narrowly missing a patron. He pointed out that two similar accidents of a more serious nature had happened in the USA lately.

He was hopeful that the theatre operator "will be able to provide the necessary assurance that such can not occur; that your patrons may relax without fear of accident, painful or fatal."

MAY PASS MONDAY HOLIDAY PLAN

Some statutory holidays, exclusive of Christmas and New Year's, may be observed on a Monday. It was stated in the House of Commons by the Hon. Colin Gibson, Secretary of State, that he had hoped to introduce a bill along such lines during the current session but it was delayed.

Business men and others who like the long week-ends have asked many times for readjustments of holidays. Amendments are required to certain acts to make such a move legal.

DILLON OF CMPDA TO VISIT WEST

Fred Dillon, recently appointed executive director of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, will visit Western Canada on a "get acquainted" trip. Local Film Boards of Trade and their guests will welcome him at special luncheons and he will speak on public relations and other matters of general trade interest.

The distributors' representative will be in Edmonton on May 12, Calgary 13-14, Vancouver 16-17 and Winnipeg 19-20-21.

His first stop after leaving Toronto, however, will be Regina, where on May 9-10-11 he will attend the meeting of the Dominion Fire Prevention Association.

USA EXHIBS COMPARE BO NOTES

Boxoffice performance plan by which 400 Theatre Owners of America members in locations having populations of 2,500 to 25,000 will submit weekly reports for picture performances the previous week, computed in percentage terms with 100 per cent the normal, has been inaugurated.

Replies of individual theatres will include smaller independents, circuit houses, and will be regarded as strictly confidential. Copies of the weekly summary will be mailed to members in spots with over 50,000 population to assist in bookings.

Critics Josh At 'Canad'n Pacific'

Toronto's critics welcomed Canadian Pacific, 20th Century-Fox' Cinecolor film produced by Nat Holt, with sneers. The CBC's film critic, Gerald Pratley, also lashed it severely.

Jack Karr of the Toronto Daily Star wrote: "As entertainment it may have some value. As anything resembling history, the less said the better."

Herbert Whittaker of the Globe and Mail said that "presumably the C.P.R. has accepted the history as set down by Hollywood, and so we shouldn't fuss about it. Viewing the film apart from its historical connections, we find Canadian Pacific a fair-to-mediocre adventure film, with sufficient action, appalling dialogue and stock characterizations."

"Canadian Pacific," wrote Stan Helleur in The Telegram, "is standard material with a misleading title. If you attend the movie expecting an historical story of that well-known railway, you'll be disappointed. But if you're after frontier type of action, you'll enjoy yourself."

The film opened without any fanfare, which indicates that the CPR publicity department did not take advantage of further exploitation possibilities. The rumor is that it considers this the most judicious policy at the moment, in view of the casual use made of the name Canadian Pacific, an outstanding one in Canadian history.

Dorothy McGuire Signed By 20th-Fox

Twentieth Century-Fox has announced the signing of Dorothy McGuire to a long-term studio contract. Her first role on the 20th-Fox lot will be the lead in The Doctor Wears Three Faces, the Mary Bard story which is being adapted for the screen by Claude Binyon who also will direct. Fred Kohlmar will produce.

'Make Mine Laughs' New Vaude Picture

Due to the success of its first vaudeville-on-film, Variety Time, RKO is speeding production on its second using the same theme, Make Mine Laughs. Gil Lamb is acting as star and master of ceremonies and shooting has started.

Film will comprise a batch of new acts, a new series of Flicker Flashbacks and sequences already filmed featuring Ray Bolger, Francis Langford, Leon Errol, Dennis Day, Joan Davis, Jack Haley, Ann Shirley and Frankie Carle and his orchestra.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
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REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 14, No. 19 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Homicide

with Robert Douglas, Helen Westcott, Robert Alda.

Warner Bros. 77 Mins.

MELODRAMA MAKES ITS MODEST GOAL WITH SOMETHING TO SPARE. ACCEPTABLE MIXTURE OF SUSPENSE AND ACTION.

For a melodrama with a modest goal Homicide does more than well for itself. The film is commendably simple and terse in spinning out the story of how the bullheadedness of an astute officer of the law proves a death listed as suicide to be a case of murder. The sleuth accomplishes his purpose with a good deal of interest, creating a decent measure of suspense, excitement and action in following the scent that leads him to his quarry. The tale works itself into a climax that finds Robert Douglas, the hero, and Robert Alda, one of the villains, pitted in a battle of fists and wits that ought to get the meller fans rightly exercised.

The fuse is lit in a tale that carries much logic when Douglas refuses to believe that Warren Douglas, an itinerant worker, witness to a murder, has died by his own hand. Goaded by the scoffing of a fellow sleuth, the hero comes up with evidence that the murder was committed to protect a racing wire service operating illegally.

Robert Douglas and Helen Westcott, who is helpful to him in breaking the case, indulge in a bit of cooing that doesn't detract much from the forward march of the plot.

Saul Elkins produced without fanfare, while Felix Jacoves directed the William Sackheim script to good effect.

CAST: Robert Douglas, Helen Westcott, Robert Alda, Monte Blue, Warren Douglas, Richard Benedict, John Harman.

CREDITS: Producer, Saul Elkins; Director, Felix Jacoves; Screenplay, William Sackheim; Photography, Peverell Marley.

DIRECTION: Okay. PHOTOGRAPHY: Good.

Lippert Names Cast For 'Sky Liner'

Richard Travis, Pamela Blake and Rochelle Hudson will have the lead roles in Lippert Productions' Sky Liner, which has gone before the cameras at the Hal Roach Studios. Film will be released in Canada by Cardinal Films.

Two featured performers have also been named to the cast by Lippert. They are Dodie Bauer, star of the original New York cast of Junior Miss, and David Holt, former child star at Paramount.

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court

with Bing Crosby, William Bendix, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Rhonda Fleming.

Paramount (Technicolor) 107 Mins.

MARK TWAIN'S HUMOR PLUS CROSBY, BENDIX AND HARDWICKE AND TECHNICOLOR ADD UP TO A DIVERTING LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT WITH HIGH MOMENTS.

The basic humorous values of the Mark Twain work in the lighter vein have been ably rendered into film terms, enhanced by a Technicolor production and suavely performed by Bing Crosby, aided by other colorful characterizations. The audiences that have a deep affection for the smooth quality of Der Bingle's delivery of his various roles will not be deprived of the qualities that give them delight. Here he is not only the Hartford blacksmith of 1910 transposed to the England of 528 but he is also a balladeer. He has to be, it goes without saying. As a trio of characters playing at royalty, Bing, Sir Cedric and Bendix strike gay notes.

Once more the citizen from the Nutmeg State is transported from his native land to Camelot of King Arthur's day. But here he tells his story to the current (1910) owner of the castle.

In a lengthy flashback Crosby becomes involved with the devilries of the Magician Merlin, the beauty of "Sandy," the awkwardness of "Sir Sagamore," played by Bendix and the countless other events and characters of the day which in time lead to the chopping block. Referring to his almanac, "Hank Martin" pulls that famous fast one about the eclipse of the sun and thus saves not only his head but the tops of King Arthur & Co. who have been roaming the countryside investigating the state of the nation.

Finally Crosby meets the 1910 version of "Sandy." Played both times by Rhonda Fleming, the right romantic note concludes the show.

CAST: Bing Crosby, William Bendix, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Rhonda Fleming, Murvyn Vye, Virginia Field, Henry Wilcoxon.

CREDITS: Producer, Robert Fellows; Director, Tay Garnett; Screenplay, Edmund Beloin; Based on the novel by Mark Twain; Photography, Ray Rennahan.

DIRECTION: Standard. PHOTOGRAPHY: Good.

Directs Autry Film

John English will direct Columbia's next Gene Autry starrer, Barbed Wire.

Red Stallion in the Rockies

with Arthur Franz, Jean Heather, Jim Davis.
(Cinecolor)

International Film Distributors 85 Mins.

LOVE, LAUGHTER, PATHOS, CHAOS AND CINECOLOR TIED TOGETHER IN STORY OF CIRCUS AND RANCH LIFE.

There's a little bit of everything — love, laughter, pathos, chaos and Cinecolor—in this Western package, but it seems to be giving way at the seams. The story wends through the footage but frequently loses direction. However, most of the characters have a certain appeal; Jean Heather and Arthur Franz make a cute pair, and Leatrice Joy is good as Jean's understanding grandma.

Thad Avery (Arthur Franz) and Talky Carson, (Wallace Ford), working their way back to Chicago to rejoin a circus, find themselves broke and stranded in a small, Western town. They decide to find temporary work on Honeymoon Ranch, where the honeymoon is obviously over.

The owner, Matthew Simpson (Ray Collins) is a religious, narrow-minded man, with a certain hatred of circus folk. His wife, Leatrice Joy, is more tolerant; and his granddaughter, Cindy, (Jean Heather) is positively enraptured by the newcomers.

Thad and Talky arouse the enmity, in one way or another, of everyone on the ranch but Cindy, who finds herself in love with Thad. When her pet Elk is to be killed, he intervenes. When he is in trouble she tries to smooth things out.

Talky discovers that a "phantom" horse, riding at the head of a wild herd, is really an old circus horse, Dynamite, which he once coated with phosphorescent paint. They search for the horse, for, Talky explains, if they find him they'll have the greatest circus horse in the country. They finally do, and leave the ranch, accompanied by Cindy, now Thad's wife, with the best wishes of everyone concerned.

CAST: Arthur Franz, Wallace Ford, Ray Collins, Jean Heather, James Davis, Leatrice Joy, and Red Stallion.

CREDITS: Producer, Aubrey Schenck; Director, Ralph Murphy; Written by Tom Reed; Suggested by a story by Francis Orsenwald; Director of Photography, John Alton, ASC.

DIRECTION: Okay. PHOTOGRAPHY Good.

In 'Captain China'

Edgar Bergen will have a starring role in Pine-Thomas' Captain China.

Adventure in Baltimore

with Shirley Temple, John Agar, Robert Young

RKO 89 Mins.

LEISURELY PACED, INGRATIATING HOMESPUN DRAMA WITH SALEABLE NAMES. HAS SOUND STORY INGREDIENTS. FINE FAMILY FARE.

An entertainment that should do well for itself among the audiences that like its homespun drama in leisurely paced segments, this Dore Schary opus has saleable name values and a story with warm qualities albeit there is no variation from a basically familiar theme. In its nicely turned out manner the production proves ingratiating, pleasant and perhaps even rewarding as it doles out a tale of family life in North Baltimore about 1905. It has bits of lightness, a few serious notes, romantic entanglements between juveniles. The ingredients are sound, have done the trick before, should do it again.

Miss Temple, daughter of Robert Young, is expelled from a youn ladies' school because she wants to draw from life. She returns to her understanding family and local boyfriend — Agar. She is given to being a modern woman, something of a suffragette and defender of woman's rights for equality.

This pursuit of course gets Miss Temple into many seriocomic situations from which she manages to emerge quite charmingly. Her escapades includes getting arrested, having Agar deliver one of her female equality papers and in time she paints The Spirit of Labor which is Agar wearing a brief bit of fur about his middle. She wins the contest but local townspeople are quite aroused. Young is a minister about to be elected bishop. His elevation is threatened but following a fine sermon in which he stresses tolerance he gets the post and the family settles down to a fine Sunday dinner. Richard Wallace directed.

CAST: Shirley Temple, John Agar, Robert Young, Josephine Hutchinson, Charles Kemper, Johnny Sands, John Miljan.

CREDITS: A Dore Schary Presentation; Producer, Richard H. Berger; Director, Richard Wallace; Screenplay, Lionel Sauser; Original story, Christopher Isherwood, Lesser Samuels; Photography, Robert de Grasse.

DIRECTION: Good. PHOTOGRAPHY: Good.

Jose Ferrer's First

Jose Ferrer's initial appearance for 20th Century-Fox will be in Whirlpool.

Odeon Welcomes Drama Entrants

Kinship of the motion picture with the stage was the theme of the address of welcome by George Peters, vice-president of Odeon Theatres, to the concluding event of the Dominion Drama Festival, a prize-awarding luncheon held in the Odeon-Toronto on Sunday, May 1st, the day after a week of plays at the Royal Alexandra Theatre.

"We are here because of common interest in the promotion of the arts in Canada," he told the several hundred guests and participants, and he felt that it was "none the less fitting because it is a motion picture theatre instead of a legitimate one." The screen, particularly in Britain, relied on the stage for actors.

Much laughter followed his witty comment that "Shakespeare's immortality is now assured by virtue of the fact that one of his plays has just won an Oscar."

Canadians who had received their first stage experience with festival groups, notably Paul Dupuis of Montreal Repertory Theatre, were doing well in British pictures, Peters said. "We are delighted to have you all here and to play even this small part in contributing to the success of the Dominion Drama Festival."

Peters then introduced D. Park Jamieson, chairman of the Festival, who presided after that. He thanked Peters and the Hon. J. Earl Lawson, KC, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Canada, who was unable to be present.

"Theatre groups across Canada are gratified for the co-operation and use of the facilities of the J. Arthur Rank company," Jamieson said. "I must say how deeply indebted we are for the assistance of this great motion picture organization."

Then followed the awarding of the prizes according to the choices of Phillip Hope-Wallace, London critic of the Manchester Guardian. First of these was to the Players' Guild of Hamilton for the best production, John Loves Mary, and the Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, president of the Festival, made it.

Madeleine Cicotte was chosen the best actress, while Robertson Davies, editor of the Peterborough Examiner, won $100 for the best play by a Canadian, Fortune My Foe.

The Festival, Mlle. Cicotte said in her speech of thanks, was "a gathering of many classes and creeds to better our literary heritage." It would, she added, "deepen our understanding and bind our friendship." She spoke in both French and English.

The prize won by Davies, which he donated to the Festival to help defray expenses of the winning play at the Edinburgh Festival, was contributed by Gratien Gelinas, known as Fridolin in Quebec, where he is famed as an author and actor. Vincent Massey described it as "an expression to Canada's leading playwright in the English language from her leading playwright in the French."

The event was concluded with the exhibition of short subjects in the March of Time and This Modern Age series, both of which pertained to the stage.

During the Festival Week groups from Montreal, Ottawa, London, Peterborough, Hamilton, Calgary, Sackville, NB, and New Westminster, BC, competed after winning regional competitions in which 65 groups participated.

A Grand Old-Timer

When Willis T. Dewees, a pioneer showman, sold his Rex Theatre, Vancouver, the Vancouver Province printed the following story:

ONE of America's "Grand Old Men" of the movie theatres has just parted with his "baby."

At 74, Willis T. Dewees still has the look of youth about him. His eyes light up when he speaks of his first — and only — love in his business life . . . movie houses.

And Vancouver's Rex Theatre, which he built back in 1912 and

WILLIS T. DEWEES

has run continuously ever since, changed hands Monday. It was bought by George H. Brewerton and Associates who will operate it as an independent venture.

Born in Kentucky, much of Dewees' solid, practical judgment was nurtured in the cattle ranches of Kansas and Oklahoma where he spent his youth. In 1904 he moved to Oregon and decided he wanted "to make some easy money without having to work too hard."

He owned and operated movie theatres in that state until he moved to Vancouver in 1909. Here he bought the Princess and Royal Theatres. Oldtimers will remember these picture houses and that Hastings Street then was truly the city's "Great White Way."

Today's main theatre district was then considered suburban.

IN 1912 he acquired the building then occupied by the Bank of Montreal that was to become the showpiece of world renown— the Rex. Building started in September, 1912, and was one of the fastest construction jobs ever done on an elaborate building of the kind.

This was sheer necessity. The theatre had to be ready for business before Christmas. Dewees needed the money Christmas business would bring to pay off the first debts coming due at that time.

The Rex opened Dec. 20th, 1913, 20 minutes after final construction work was completed. It was the most modern movie-house in the world at that time. Seating capacity was 999, well beyond that of any other house of the kind.

The Rex has operated continuously — longer than any other theatre in western Canada.

In 1920 Dewees was western representative of the Allen Theatre Co. He and his accociates built the Allen Theatre — now the Strand.

At one time he owned every movie theatre in the city. Today he owns interests in theatres in Vancouver, Victoria, Trail, Nanaimo, Rossland and Nelson.

He paid big money to movie studios to let him have the best films of the day.

BACK in the early days of the industry he recalls "screening" in one of his theatres a promising young comedian.

Yes, he told the studio, someday this youngster Charlie Chaplin would be as great as the idol of the day, Ford Sterling.

Another time the old Biograph Studio sent him a film starring another bright youngster, Mary Pickford. Audiences here liked her.

Although retired from much active business life now, Mr. Dewees still keeps his hand in. Far from "going to seed," he has a consuming interest in anything "movie."

He divides his time between his office, building a home, golfing and boating.

Koster To Direct

Henry Koster will direct 20th-Fox' Wabash Avenue.

Suggest Canadian Film Festival

Emergence of the Canadian Film Awards, instituted this year, has led to suggestions that a world film festival be held annually in Canada along the lines of the one which takes place each Fall in connection with the Edinburgh International Festival of Music and Drama. This year it will take place from August 21st to September 11th.

With the strong support of the Central Office of Information of the United Kingdom and helpful support from the governments and film organizations of many countries, the Edinburgh Documentary Film Festival has in a few years became the focal point of world interest in realist film production.

The films are selected for their merit, either in the creative interpretation of reality or in factual exposition, by a representative committee of experts. For a film to be shown at the Edinburgh Festival before a great international audience is a signal honor esteemed by producers of all countries.

For most of the films shown it will be their first screening in Scotland and, as on former occasions, it is expected that the Festival will include a number of world premieres.

Daily for three weeks the Festival presents an unique opportunity of seeing the most outstanding documentaries from all over the world. Feature films are included in the seven major performances that are held on Sundays in one of the three theatres used by the Festival.

One of the winners at the Festival last year was Crawley Films' The Loon's Necklace, which also won first place in the Canadian Film Awards. Several National Film Board productions have also won international fame at the Festival.

Gets Feminine Lead

Gail Davis has been signed for the feminine lead in Monogram's Range Rogues.

Paramount Borrows Fox' Gene Tierney

Gene Tierney will star with Ray Milland in Paramount's Counter Intelligence, love story set against a background of army rocket ship experimentation, as a result of negotiations completed with 20th Century-Fox which has Miss Tierney under contract.

Counter Intelligence will be produced by Robert Fellows from a screen play written by William Wister Haines, author of Command Decision.

LOST

4,727,272 potential customers for motion pictures in Canada, (mostly over 30); if FORTUNE MAGAZINE investigation published April which shows 40-million customer loss in U.S. is right for your territory. WHY? Industry passed up this good bet, it says there; either did not book or did not sell pictures which would have held lost audience . . . QUOTE lost audience has to do the work to find films it wants to see UNQUOTE.

FOUND

THE right answer. Some smart Canadian exhibitors found this one out four years before America's top-price business magazine joined ranks of box-office mourners. They bought, booked and SOLD British-made, Eagle-Lion product which brings in for them this mostly-over-30 or money-in-the-bank audience the other fellow is missing. Names on request.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

IF you haven't checked into this yet, check into it now. Get in touch with your nearest Eagle-Lion branch.

PERSONAL

WHEN you see an Eagle-Lion salesman, ask him to let you have a look at his personal break-down list which shows exactly how many families in your territory read Eagle-Lion's national pre-selling promotions EVERY WEEK IN THE YEAR. He has the figures. Have you?

Then ask him to let you see as soon as ready Eagle-Lion's tested check-chart which shows, picture by picture, how to fit your buying policy to your customer's buying policy; what groups to sell on what picture.

HIT! is the word for

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SOCK! is the cast and story!

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William Wright · Tony Barrett · Mae Marsh

Produced by LEO C. POPKIN · Directed by ARTHUR LUBIN

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